Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 05319 110950Z ACTION CU-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 USIA-15 /036 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8506

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 5319

SECSTATE PLS PASS DEPT OF LABOR

STATE FOR CU/IVP/V

LABOR FOR OIVP

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, OEXC (ABDUL WAHAB BIN MOHD OTHMAN)

SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY VISITORS PROGRAM

1. ABDUL WAHAB BIN MOHD OTHMAN, REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS, MINISTRY OF LABOR AND MANPOWER, IS PLANNING A PRIVATE TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES AT HIS OWN EXPENSE. HE HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP A PROGRAM WITH USG COUNTERPARTS AND TRADE UNION OFFICIALS DURING PART OF HIS STAY IN THE U.S. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED TO MEET WITH LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND ARBITRATION AND IN TRADE UNION REGISTRY AND LIAISON.

2. ABDUL WAHAB PLANS TO TRAVEL FIRST TO SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES ABOUT SEPTEMBER 24, THEN TO CHICAGO TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH A DAUGHTER WHO IS A STUDENT AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

HE COULD ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON TO BEGIN HIS LABOR DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED PROGRAM ABOUT OCTOBER 10. WE SUGGESTED THAT HE SPEND ABOUT A WEEK IN WASHINGTON, THEN GO TO NEW YORK ABOUT OCT. 16 AND TO BOSTON ABOUT OCT. 20. HE WILL FLY UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM BOSTON TO LONDON ON OCT. 24. IF POSSIBLE, ABDUL WAHAB WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A LIMITED PROGRAM ORGANIZED BY THE LABOR DEPARTMENT IN BOTH NEW YORK AND BOSTON. HE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE IT IF MODERATELY-PRICED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS COULD BE ARRANGED FOR HIMSELF AND HIS WIFE IN WASHINGTON, NEW YORK AND BOSTON. WE WILL PROVIDE EXACT DATES FOR HIS ITINERARY AFTER WE HEAR FROM THE LABOR DEPARTMENT.

- 3. ABDUL WAHAB WAS BORN JULY 3, 1929, IN MALAYSIA. HE HAS HAD OVER TWENTY YEARS SERVICE WITH THE LABOR MINISTRY AND HOLDS A KEY POSITION AS REGISTRAR OF TRADE UNIONS SINCE THE GRANTING OR DENIAL OF UNION STATUS IS A MAJOR ELEMENT IN THE GOM CONTROL OVER THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT.
- 4. WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE FAVORABLE CU AND OIVP CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST FOR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE. ABDUL WAHAB HAS NOT REQUESTED NOR DO WE THINK IT NECESSARY TO PROVIDE ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD HAVE A REPLY BY SEPTEMBER 1. MILLER

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